

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An infra-red reflecting layered structure, said layered structure comprising:

- a transparent substrate layer;
- a first metal oxide layer;
- a first silver containing layer;
- a second metal oxide layer;
- a second silver containing layer;
- a third metal oxide layer;

said infra-red reflecting layered structure further comprising at least one protective intermediate layer comprising gold, said protective intermediate layer being located on both sides of at least one of the first and second silver containing layers ~~between a silver containing layer and a metal oxide layer and/or between a metal oxide layer and a silver containing layer;~~

said first, second and third metal oxide layer having a refractive index of at least 2.40 at a wavelength of 500 nm and said infra-red reflecting layered structure laminated on glass, having a visual light transmittance (VLT) higher than 70 % and a solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) lower than 0.44.

2. (Previously Presented) An infra-red reflecting layered structure according to claim 1, wherein said infra-red reflecting layered structure has a light to solar gain ratio (LSG ratio) higher than 1.60.

3. (Previously Presented) An infra-red reflecting layered structure according to claim 1, wherein said first, second and third metal oxide layer comprises TiO₂.

4. (Previously Presented) An infra-red reflecting layered structure according to claim 3, wherein said TiO₂ is mainly composed of rutile phase.

5 - 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) An infra-red reflecting layered structure according to claim 1, wherein said first and second silver containing layer have a thickness between 10 and 25 nm.

8. (Previously Presented) An infra-red reflecting layered structure according to claim 1, wherein said first, second and third metal oxide layer have a thickness between 25 and 70 nm.

9. (Previously Presented) An infra-red reflecting layered structure according to claim 1, wherein the infra-red reflecting layered structure is a transparent heat-mirror.

10. (Withdrawn) A method of reducing the number of silver containing layers in an infra-red reflecting layered structure, said method comprising the following steps:

providing a transparent substrate layer;

depositing upon said substrate layer a first metal oxide layer having a refractive index of at least 2.40 at a wavelength of 500 nm;

depositing upon said first metal oxide layer a first silver containing layer;

depositing upon said first silver containing layer a second metal oxide layer having a refractive index of at least 2.40 at a wavelength of 500 nm;

depositing upon said second metal oxide layer a second silver containing layer;

depositing upon said second silver containing layer a third metal oxide layer having a refractive index of at least 2.40 at a wavelength of 500 nm.

11. (Withdrawn) A method of improving the visual light transmittance of an infra-red reflecting layered structure, said method comprising the following steps :

providing a transparent substrate layer;

depositing upon said substrate layer a first metal oxide layer having a refractive index of at least 2.40 at a wavelength of 500 nm;

depositing upon said first metal oxide layer a first silver containing layer;

depositing upon said first silver containing layer a second metal oxide layer having a refractive index of at least 2.40 at a wavelength of 500 nm;

depositing upon said second metal oxide layer a second silver containing layer;
depositing upon said second silver containing layer a third metal oxide layer having a refractive index of at least 2.40 at a wavelength of 500 nm.

12. (New) An infra-red reflecting layered structure, said layered structure comprising:

- a transparent substrate layer;
- a first metal oxide layer;
- a first silver containing layer;
- a second metal oxide layer;
- a second silver containing layer;
- a third metal oxide layer;

said infra-red reflecting layered structure further comprising at least one protective intermediate layer comprising gold, said protective intermediate layer being located between a silver containing layer and a metal oxide layer and/or between a metal oxide layer and a silver containing layer;

wherein said first, second and third metal oxide layer is titanium dioxide deposited by reactive DC magnetron sputtering from a substoichiometric TiO_x target where x is in the range between 1.5 to 2, and

wherein said first, second and third metal oxide layer has a refractive index of at least 2.40 at a wavelength of 500 nm and said infra-red reflecting layered structure laminated on glass, having a visual light transmittance (VLT) higher than 70 % and a solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) lower than 0.44.